

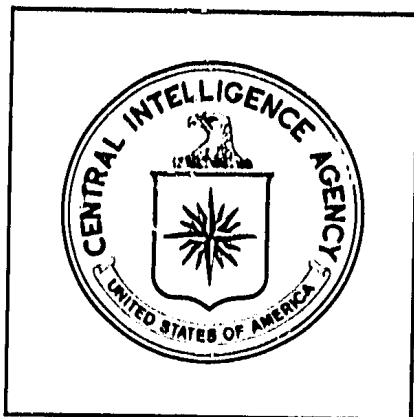
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STAFF NOTES:

Soviet Union Eastern Europe

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[REDACTED]

Brezhnev Is More Active

General Secretary Brezhnev's activities are beginning to pick up after his long hospitalization and convalescence. On March 3 he met with Czechoslovak party boss Husak, attended a lunch in Husak's honor, and later saw him off at the airport. Husak, who was in Moscow for a one-day visit, is the first East European leader to see Brezhnev since Bulgarian party chief Zhivkov's visit to Moscow in mid-October. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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A Gloomy Forecast
for Soviet-Yugoslav Trade

The Moscow correspondent of a major Yugoslav daily has published a pessimistic assessment of the prospects for Yugoslav trade with the USSR over the long-term.

The article in *Zabreb Vjesnik* last month argued that, despite strong political incentives for Moscow to steadily increase its trade with Belgrade, Yugoslavia's traditional role as an alternative source for Soviet purchases in the West is eroding. The author cites several cases of Soviet purchases of Western know-how that will eventually reduce the export of Yugoslav consumer goods to the USSR. Moreover, he asserts, the current Soviet penchant for concluding long-term economic deals for obtaining raw materials from both the CEMA countries and the West is threatening to squeeze Belgrade out of the competition for these vital resources.

The forecast takes care to point out that in the short run economic relations are very good--despite the impact of higher Soviet prices for oil and raw materials.

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[REDACTED]

CHRONOLOGY

February 25 Yugoslav Central Committee names nine to the party presidium, expanding its membership to 48; President Tito addresses the meeting. [REDACTED]

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Top-level Finnish Communist Party delegation arrives in Moscow for talks with CPSU officials. [REDACTED]

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Bulgarian Foreign Minister Mladenov concludes a brief official visit to the USSR. [REDACTED]

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USSR and Iran sign an economic cooperation agreement involving the construction of steel, paper, and electrical complexes said to be valued at \$3 billion. [REDACTED]

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Vatican negotiator Archbishop Poggi arrives in Poland for talks on church-state relations. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

Egyptian Minister of Economic Cooperation Amin concludes a ten-day, official visit to the USSR, having failed to secure a Soviet commitment to reschedule Cairo's military debts. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

New Zealand Prime Minister Rowling
concludes an official visit to
Romania and begins one to Yugoslavia.

[REDACTED]

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February 26

Egyptian Foreign Minister Fahmi hands
Soviet Ambassador Polyakov a reply to
a recent communication from Foreign
Minister Gromyko. [REDACTED]

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Austrian Foreign Minister Bielka
concludes a four-day, official visit
to Hungary. [REDACTED]

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Hungarian Central Committee and
Control Committee hold a joint session
and approve the principal reports to
be made at the coming party congress.
[REDACTED]

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Polish party secretary Werblan con-
cludes a three-day, official visit
to the USSR. [REDACTED]

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Bulgarian Foreign Minister Mladenov
begins an official visit to Egypt
and confers with Foreign Minister
Fahmi for three hours. [REDACTED]

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GDR Foreign Minister Fischer begins
an official visit to Czechoslovakia.
[REDACTED]

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Foreign Minister Gromyko confers with
former French foreign minister Couve
de Murville, who is in the USSR at
the head of a parliamentary delega-
tion. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

French Foreign Minister Sauvagnargues begins a three-day, official visit to Poland. [REDACTED]

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February 27

GDR party chief Honecker confers with Ambassador Cooper; this is Honecker's first meeting with a senior US official. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

Soviet-Egyptian trade protocol for 1975 is signed in Moscow; it provides for an exchange of goods worth \$850 million. [REDACTED]

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Vatican "Foreign Minister" Archbishop Casaroli concludes his official visit to Czechoslovakia after a call on Deputy Premier Lucan. [REDACTED]

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Defense Minister Grechko concludes his four-day, official visit to India. [REDACTED]

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Romanian Foreign Minister Macovescu begins a five-day, official visit to Greece. [REDACTED]

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Yugoslav Foreign Minister Minic returns to Belgrade after official visits to Mexico and Venezuela. [REDACTED]

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February 28 Dissident Yugoslav writer Mihajlov is sentenced to seven years of "rigorous imprisonment" and a further 4-year ban on any public comments by him. [REDACTED]

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East German Foreign Minister Fischer concludes a three-day, official visit to Czechoslovakia and begins one to Bulgaria. [REDACTED]

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Deputy Premier Kirillin confers with British industrialists on possible joint development of the Udokan copper deposits. [REDACTED]

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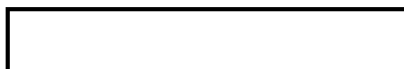
Romanian party secretary Andrei concludes a two-day, official visit to the USSR that included a meeting with Politburo member Kirilenko. [REDACTED]

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Romanian Defense Minister Ionita confers with visiting Portuguese Army Chief of Staff Fasiao. [REDACTED]

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East-West trade union conference, a two-day affair, commences in Geneva behind closed doors; Politburo member Shelepin leads the Soviet labor delegation. [REDACTED]

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Pravda publishes an authoritative, signed commentary placing relations with the FRG in an unusually favorable light. [REDACTED]

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March 1

President Marcos of the Philippines pledges to work first for formal trade ties with the USSR and then to establish diplomatic relations. [REDACTED]

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USSR and Czechoslovakia sign an agricultural cooperation protocol for 1975. [REDACTED]

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Dissident sources in Moscow report that Soviet civil rights activist Viktor Krasin has been granted an exit visa and will soon emigrate to Canada. [REDACTED]

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March 2

Yugoslavia announces that President Tito will make a state visit to Poland "soon." [REDACTED]

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Yugoslavia announces the detention of seven persons in Bosnia-Herzegovina on charges they are Cominformists. [REDACTED]

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Czechoslovakia announces that Indonesian Foreign Minister Malik will make an official visit there "in the next few days." [REDACTED]

25X1

Politburo member Shelepin returns to Moscow from the East-West labor conference at Geneva. [REDACTED]

25X1

Pravda announces a party-government decree calling for greater activity on the part of civilian volunteers to assist the police in routine law-and-order work. [REDACTED]

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March 3

Hungarian Foreign Minister Puja begins an official visit to East Germany. [REDACTED]

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Yugoslav President Tito makes a major speech at the Yugoslav Conference of the Federation. [REDACTED]

25X1

A three-day conference of Communist bloc party secretaries concerned with ideological issues begins in Prague; Politburo candidate-member Ponomarev heads the Soviet delegation. [REDACTED]

25X1

Deputy Premier Lesechko arrives in Budapest for talks on Soviet-Hungarian economic relations. [REDACTED]

25X1

Former GDR Foreign Minister Winzer dies at age 73. [REDACTED]

25X1

Premier Kosygin arrives in the Komi ASSR. [REDACTED]

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Annual Soviet-Japanese fisheries talks open in Tokyo. [REDACTED]

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French parliamentary delegation concludes its official visit to the USSR.

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Czechoslovak party chief Husak makes a brief, official visit to the USSR and meets with Brezhnev.

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March 4

26-nation Geneva disarmament conference, co-chaired by the US and the USSR, convenes for its first meeting of 1975.

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Bulgarian Foreign Minister Mladenov begins a two-day, official visit to West Germany.

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FUTURE EVENTS

March 9

Elections for Romania's Grand National Assembly to be held.

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March 11

Romanian Chief of Staff Coman to begin a ten-day, official visit to the US, the first by such a high-ranking officer of a Warsaw Pact member-state.

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March

USSR to conduct a military exercise in the central part of its European territory.

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March 16

Swedish Prime Minister Palme to begin a three-day, official visit to Yugoslavia.

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March 17 Hungarian party congress to open.

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March 18 Yugoslav Premier Bijedic to commence
a five-day, official visit to the US.

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March 19 French Prime Minister Chirac to begin
a six-day, official visit to the
USSR.

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March 21 Finnish President Kekkonen to begin
a five-day, "unofficial" visit to
Yugoslavia.

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early April Romanian President Ceausescu to go
on an extended tour with state visits
to Japan, the Philippines, Kuwait,
Jordan, and Tunisia.

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